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LE
SALON
VERT

SUSANNA BAUER

Among the Leaves

Opening day : Saturday 1st May from 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm, a video call is organized with the artist.

Exposition: 1st May - 30 June 2021

Thursday - Friday 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm,

Saturday 11 am - 5 pm

by appointment or online: www.salonvert.ch

From early May through June, Le Salon Vert will present *Among the Leaves*, an exhibition featuring recent work by the German artist Susanna Bauer. Come this spring to the Carouge gallery and discover Bauer's delicate crochet work on tree leaves, done either in compositions on paper or 3D sculptural pieces.

Susanna Bauer was born in 1969 in Eichstätt, Germany. She currently lives and works in Southwest England. After studying landscape architecture from 1988 to 1992 at the Technische Universität in Munich, she worked as an apprentice in model design for three years. From 1995 to 2009, she worked as a modelmaker for advertising, television, film and various artists in Germany, Ireland, and Great Britain. She studied at the Camberwell College of Art, London from 2007 to 2008, during which she developed her own artistic practice that very quickly gained attention. Since then, she has exhibited her work in numerous galleries in England, but also in the United States, Japan, China, Netherlands, Italy and in Switzerland, where she has been represented by Le Salon Vert since 2017.

Susanna Bauer works with natural plant leaves, stitching them together using crochet and thus initiating an intimate dialogue with nature. The collected leaves are repaired, embellished, and put into combinations using crochet lace, all by hand.



Centered XII, 2021
plane tree leaves, cotton thread
30 H x 30 W
photo: www.art-photographers.co.uk

Crochet is a painstaking traditional technique, based on tension, that the artist juxtaposes with the fragile natural material. The resulting shapes are a meditation on Nature's beauty and complexity and are similarly a reflection of the delicate and tender relationships woven between humans and our environment.

She works on an extremely detailed scale, using very slender crochet hooks and needles, as well as with thin cotton threads, thus pushing the technique to its extreme. In some of her work, she creates complex lace patterns directly at the edges of the leaves, in others she uses the crochet in a sculptural way, in order to reshape, join, repair, or extend the leaves and create compositions of pairs, groups, and sometimes even entire branches.

By looking carefully at a single leaf, its uniqueness is revealed. It stands apart from the others by its nuances, its size, and its shape; two leaves, even coming from the same tree, are never identical. Each one presents a singular network of veins, like a fingerprint.

By combining crochet with a material like tree leaves, seemingly so fragile, Susanna Bauer explores themes like the value of time, tenderness, and the tensions in human relationships, the vulnerability and resilience of the natural world as well as in individual human stories. Working with tension is an integral part of the technique itself, but this can also be understood metaphorically, since managing tension plays an extensive role in our lives and our environment. In this way, the work becomes a mirrors of our lives and the world around us, revealing both the ephemeral and long-lasting beauty of Nature.

1:1, 2021
oak leaves, cotton thread
28 H x 42 W cm (framed)
photo : www.art-photographers.co.uk

